

Additions to the Pleistocene Avifauna of Arredondo, Florida

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LATE Pleistocene deposits at Arredondo, Alachua County, Florida, contain a rich avifauna (Brodkorb, 1959). It represents two ecological communities, one a fresh water marsh with adjacent wet meadows, and the other a scrub community. Two additional birds are now added, an extinct vulture and the living short-eared owl, both from Arredondo II. With these additions the total known avifauna from the Arredondo Pleistocene stands at 45 species.

FAMILY CATHARTIDAE

Coragyps occidentalis (L. Miller)

Distal end of juvenile right tibiotarsus, PB 8422. This element is more robust than in the living black vulture, *C. atratus* (Bechstein).

The least anterior width of the intercondylar sulcus measures 4.3 mm in the Arredondo fossil. Six tibiotarsi of *C. occidentalis* from the Pleistocene of Reddick, Florida, measure 3.6-4.2 (mean 4.3). In recent specimens the comparable measurement is 2.7-3.7 (mean 3.2) in nine *C. a. atratus* from Florida, and 2.9-3.1 (mean 3.0) in three *C. a. brasiliensis* from the tropics.

The distal width of the Arredondo tibiotarsus is 13.4 mm, and it is 13.0-13.9 (mean 13.5) in four *C. occidentalis* from Reddick. In nine Recent *C. a. atratus* it measures 11.3-12.0 (mean 11.7), and in three Recent *C. a. brasiliensis* 13.0-13.9 (mean 13.4). The measurements of the fossils from Arredondo and Reddick compare well with those of 17 tibiotarsi of *C. occidentalis* from the Pleistocene of San Josecito, Nuevo León (Howard, 1968).

Coragyps occidentalis is known from three sites in Florida, Reddick (Brodkorb, 1957), Haile XI B (Ligon, 1965), and now Arredondo.

FAMILY STRIGIDAE

Asio flammeus (Pontoppidan). Distal end of right tibiotarsus, PB 8423.

The short-eared owl is separable by size from all other owls except *Asio otus*. Although very similar superficially, the shaft of *Asio otus* is smaller, and there is a small groove on the anterior, inner (intercondylar sulcus facing) surface of the external condyle not found on *A. flammeus*.

This is only the second fossil occurrence of *Asio flammeus* in Florida. Ligon (1965) reported the first from Haile XI B.

These additions to the avifauna strengthen the conclusion that the sites at Reddick, Arredondo, and Haile XI B are of approximately the same age, whether Sangamon (Webb, in press) or more generally Rancholabrean (Ligon, 1965).

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